

Message Text

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20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

FEA-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-06 OES-03 ACDA-05 XMB-02 SCCT-01 EA-06

/130 W

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R 161607Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9303

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 913

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NY

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BEIRUT POUCH USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, XF

SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, JULY 15, 1975:

MIDDLE EAST ASPECTS

REFS: (A) EC BRUSSELS 6382

(B) EC BRUSSELS 6426

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1. BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING THE RESTRICTED PORTION OF THE

EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL HELD IN BRUSSELS ON JULY 15
THE MINISTERS CONSIDERED POSSIBLE REACTIONS TO A PROTEST
MADE BY THE AMBASSADORS OF ALGERIA, SOMALIA AND IRAQ
REGARDING THE RESOLUTION CONDEMNING MIDDLE EAST TERRORISM
ADOPTED LAST WEEK BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (SEE REFTEL A).
EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE
ARAB PROTEST MIGHT ENDANGER THE FORTHCOMING MEETING
OF THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS
OF THE NINE ARE TO MEET TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE RESPONSES
TO BE DELIVERED BEFORE THE END OF THE WEEK. THE
MINISTERS ALSO BRIEFLY DISCUSSED THE US REQUEST FOR
ASSISTANCE FOR EGYPT AND REFERRED THE MATTER TO THE
POLITICAL DIRECTORS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION.
END SUMMARY.

2. ARAB PROTEST RE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION:
THE AMBASSADORS OF IRAQ, SOMALIA AND ALGERIA MET WITH THE
ITALIAN AMBASSADOR (REPRESENTING THE EC COUNCIL
PRESIDENCY) ON JULY 14 AND WITH EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT
ORTOLI ON JULY 15. THE AMBASSADORS CONDEMNED,
REPORTEDLY IN VERY STRONG TERMS, THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED
LAST WEEK BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ON MIDDLE EAST
TERRORISM. FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING WITH ORTOLI THE
AMBASSADORS HELD AN IMPROMPTU PRESS BRIEFING WHERE THEY
CHARACTERIZED THE PARLIAMENT'S ACTION AS "VIOLATING
ALL TRUE RESPONSIBILITY."

3. REPORTING THE ARAB DEMARCHE TO THE EC COUNCIL,
ORTOLI EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE SITUATION MIGHT
CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO THE JULY 21-24 MEETING IN ROME
UNDER THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE. HE URGED THE MINISTERS
TO RESPOND TO THE PROTEST, BUT OPPOSED MAKING THE
COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE PUBLIC. ORTOLI REPORTEDLY
SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD MAKE REFERENCE
TO ITS NOVEMBER 1973 STATEMENT BY THE NINE ON THE
MIDDLE EAST AND TO APPROPRIATE UN RESOLUTIONS.
IN ADDITION HE SUGGESTED THE COUNCIL POINT OUT TO THE
AMBASSADORS THAT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT WAS AN
INSTITUTION INDEPENDENT OF THE EC COMMISSION OR THE
EC COUNCIL AND, AS SUCH, WAS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR
ITS OWN ACTIONS.

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4. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS OF THE EC ARE TO MEET
TO CONSIDER THE COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE WHICH IS LIKELY
TO BE MADE THIS WEEK. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER
THE RESPONSE WILL BE ALONG THE LINES OF ORTOLI'S
SUGGESTIONS. SOURCES HERE BELIEVE THAT SOME RESPONSE
WILL BE MADE, HOWEVER, IF ONLY IN AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID
HAVING A POLITICAL PROBLEM ON THE TABLE BEFORE THE

EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE SESSION CONVENES IN ROME.

5. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT: THE ITALIANS
INFORMED THE COUNCIL OF THE REVISED FIGURES REPORTEDLY
PROVIDED BY THE US IN CONNECTION WITH THE REQUEST
FOR EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EGYPT. THE
DUTCH NOTED THAT THE COMMUNITY WAS EXPECTED TO MAKE
UP ANY SHORT-FALL IN THE JAPANESE CONTRIBUTION AND,
ON THIS BASIS, THEY WISHED TO CONSIDER THE MATTER
FURTHER. THE DUTCH REPRESENTATIVE POINTED OUT THAT
THEY WERE IN THE PROCESS OF GIVING ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT
VIA THE UNDP. THE ENTIRE SUBJECT WAS REFERRED TO THE
POLITICAL DIRECTORS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.

6. OUR SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS
ARE EXPECTED TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION PRIOR TO THE
EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE
IN BRUSSELS ON JULY 22. GREENWALD

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